Archie
ADVENTURE SERIES
NO. 88
NOV.
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THE WORLD'S MOST WAY-PAST COOL COMIC!
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE
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DIRECT EDITION

After ten long years, the iron-fisted rule of DOCTOR ROBOTNIK over planet MOBIUS was believed to have finally ended! With the technological tyrant vanquished and his polluted factories shut down, order and beauty were restored to the city of MOBOTROPOLIS. Now the villain has returned to wreak havoc once more, but there are many who are willing to stand against him in the fight for freedom. The bravest among them is a brash, blue streak who just happens to be the fastest thing alive! ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT... SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!

family matters

chapter one

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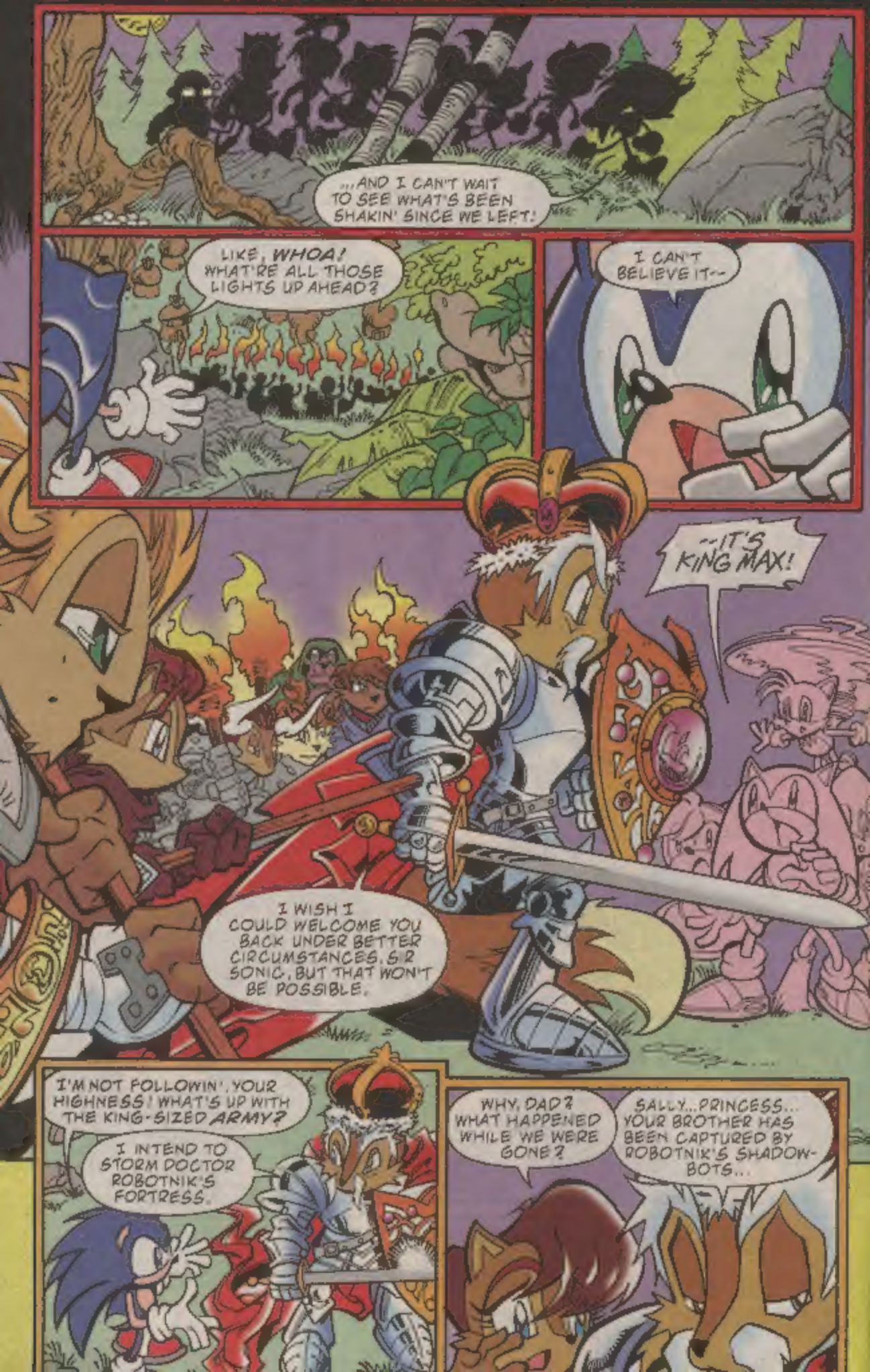
editor-in-chief

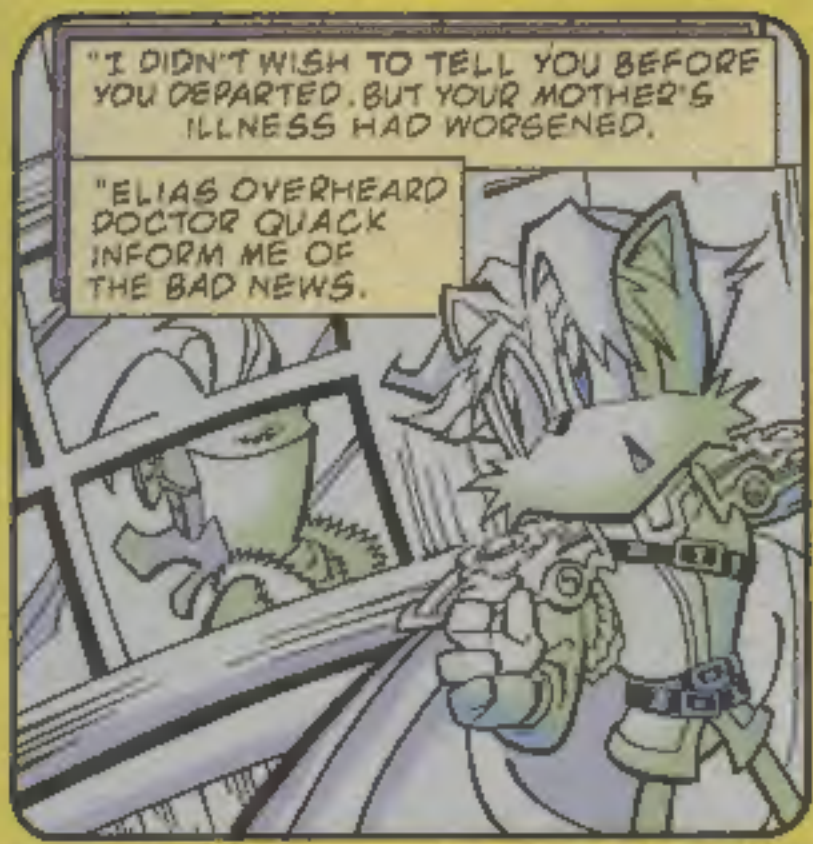
YAAAAAYYY!

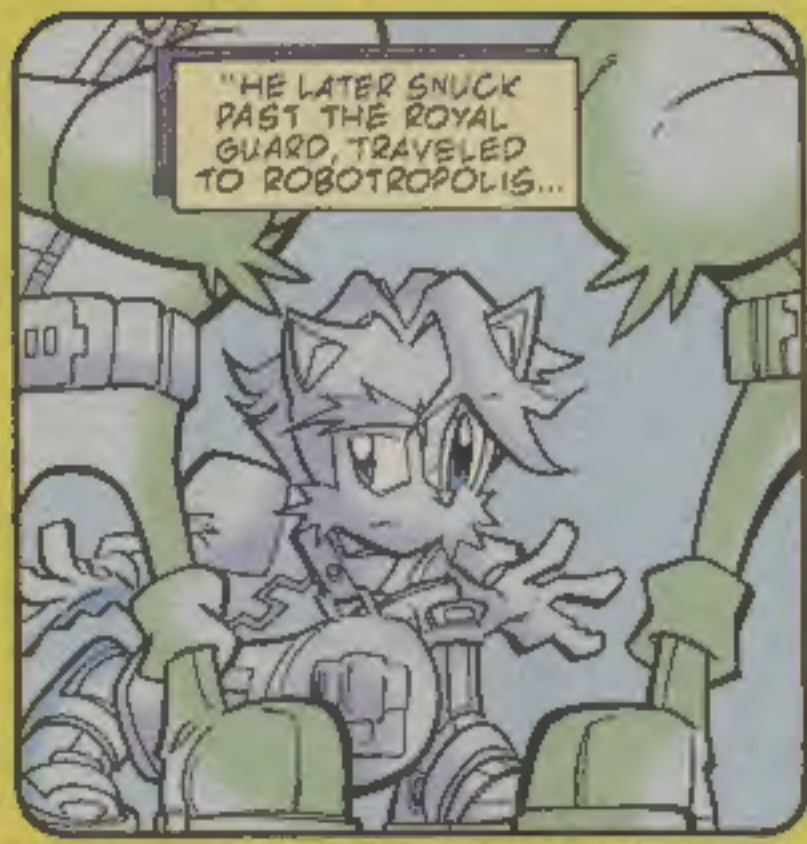
FEEL THAT COOL BREEZE! SMELL THE FLOWERS! LISTEN TO THE RUNNING BROOK!

YOU PRETTY MUCH SUMMED IT UP, AMY! SURE IS GOOD TO BE HOME!

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG (isscn1070-5090). No. 88, Nov., 2000. Published monthly by Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Richard H. Goldwater, President and Co-Publisher. Michael I. Silberblatt, Chairman and Co-Publisher. Single copies $1.99 in the U.S.; $2.19 in Canada. Subscription rate: U.S. $23.88 for 12 issues. $26.28 in Canada. All Canadian orders payable in U.S. funds. Sega is registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Sega, Sonic The Hedgehog and all related characters and indicia are trademark of SEGA. Sega of America Dreamcast, Inc., P.O. Box 7684, San Francisco, CA 94120-7684. © 2000 SEGA. All Rights Reserved. The product is manufactured under a license from Sega of America Dreamcast, Inc. Any similarities between characters, names, persons, and/or institutions in this book and any living, dead, or fictional characters, names, persons, and/or institutions are not intended and if they exist, are purely coincidental. Periodicals postage paid at the post office at Mamaroneck, New York and at additional mailing offices. Title registered in U.S. patent office. POSTMASTER, send address changes to SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, c/o Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Printed in Canada


...AND I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT'S BEEN SHAKIN' SINCE WE LEFT!
LIKE, WHOA! WHAT'RE ALL THOSE LIGHTS UP AHEAD?
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT--
--IT'S KING MAX!
I WISH I COULD WELCOME YOU BACK UNDER BETTER CIRCUMSTANCES, SIR SONIC, BUT THAT WON'T BE POSSIBLE.
I'M NOT FOLLOWIN', YOUR HIGHNESS! WHAT'S UP WITH THE KING-SIZED ARMY?
I INTEND TO STORM DOCTOR ROBOTNIK'S FORTRESS.
WHY, DAD? WHAT HAPPENED WHILE WE WERE GONE?
SALLY...PRINCESS... YOUR BROTHER HAS BEEN CAPTURED BY ROBOTNIK'S SHADOW-BOTS...

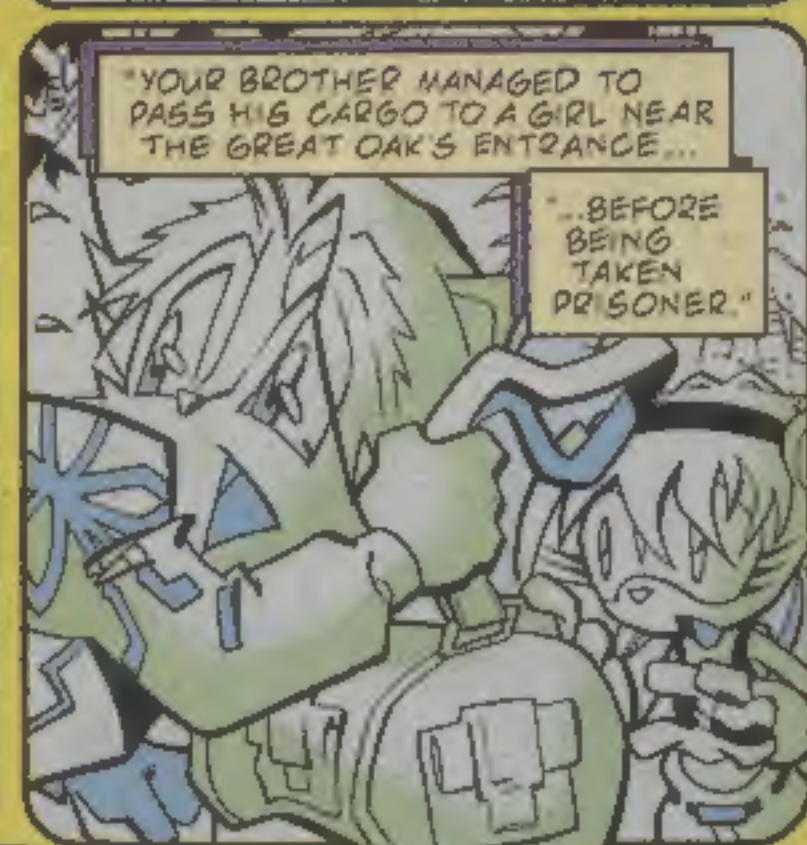

"I DIDN'T WISH TO TELL YOU BEFORE YOU DEPARTED. BUT YOUR MOTHER'S ILLNESS HAD WORSENED.
"ELIAS OVERHEARD DOCTOR QUACK INFORM ME OF THE BAD NEWS.


"HE LATER SNUCK PAST THE ROYAL GUARD, TRAVELED TO ROBOTROPOLIS...

"...AND SOMEHOW MANAGED TO INFILTRATE ROBOTNIK'S HEADQUARTERS.

"ONCE INSIDE, HE LOCATED A SINGLE VIAL CONTAINING A METALLIC LIQUID AND SMUGGLED IT AWAY.

"BUT THE SHADOW-BOTS SOON CAUGHT ON AND CHASED ELIAS ALL THE WAY THROUGH THE GREAT FOREST!


"YOUR BROTHER MANAGED TO PASS HIS CARGO TO A GIRL NEAR THE GREAT OAK'S ENTRANCE...
"...BEFORE BEING TAKEN PRISONER."

"ELIAS HAD TOLD THE GIRL TO BRING THE MYSTERIOUS LIQUID TO QUEEN ALICIA...
"...AND SHE QUICKLY OBEYED.
"QUACK AND HIS MEDICAL TEAM INJECTED IT INTO YOUR MOTHER'S SYSTEM...
"...AND NOW SHE'S UNDERGOING INTENSIVE SURGERY."
WELL, THANKS FOR THE TIMELY RECAP, DAD!
WELL... ER... UHH...
SAL! WAITASEC...
YOU'D BEST LEAVE HER BE FOR NOW, SONIC...
...THE SECRET SERVICE AND I COULD REALLY USE YOUR HELP ON THIS MISSION!
UHH... SURE THING, ST. JOHN...

ROBOTROPOLIS...

KNOTHOLE KINGDOM...
LIEUTENANT D'COOLETTE, YOUR CURRENT INJURY FORCES ME TO REMOVE YOU FROM ACTIVE DUTY.
WHA?! BUT YOUR HEINY--SURELY MY ABSENCE WILL JEOPARDIZE ZEE MISSION'S SUCCESS, NON?!
DON'T WORRY, ANTOINE--I'LL SIT THIS ONE OUT WITH YA!
IT'S GOOD TO HAVE YOU BACK, SON!
IT'S GOOD TO BE BACK! DAD--HOPE YOU AND MOM DIDN'T MISS ME TOO MUCH!
THE PAST WEEK FELT LIKE SIX MONTHS!
WORD TO SONIC'S MOTHER...
ARE YOU AND TAILS READY, SONIC?
EVER READY. LET'S BOOGIE.
SONIC! GEOFFREY! PRINCESS SALLY'S IN THE MED-LAB AND SHE WANTS TO SEE YOU BOTH!
NO PROBL--
ACTUALLY, AMY ROSE, WE'RE SET TO RENDEZVOUS WITH THE KING IN MERE MINUTES.
IT'S NOT EXACTLY A REQUEST. IT'S MORE ALONG THE LINES OF...

"...AN ORDER."

HOW'S HER BLOOD PRESSURE?

WELL...

SAL...

SONIC! OH, SONIC...

I'M SORRY THIS IS HAPPENING, SAL.

NOT YOUR FAULT...

DOESN'T MEAN I DON'T FEEL BAD...

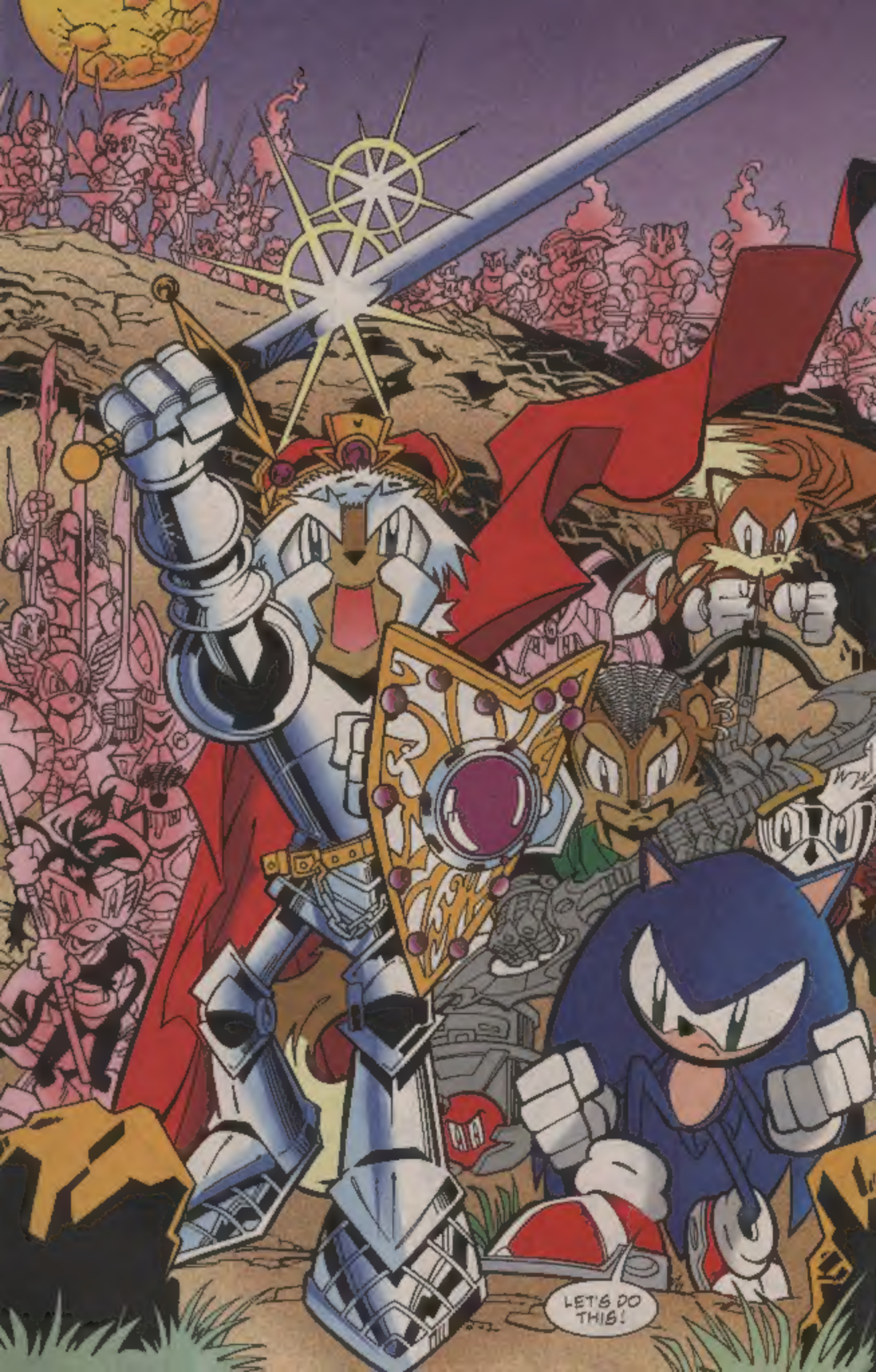
LISTEN CAREFULLY --DAD'S NOT AS *YOUNG* AS HE ONCE WAS. I'M CHARGING *YOU* WITH *PROTECTING* HIM ON THIS MISSION.

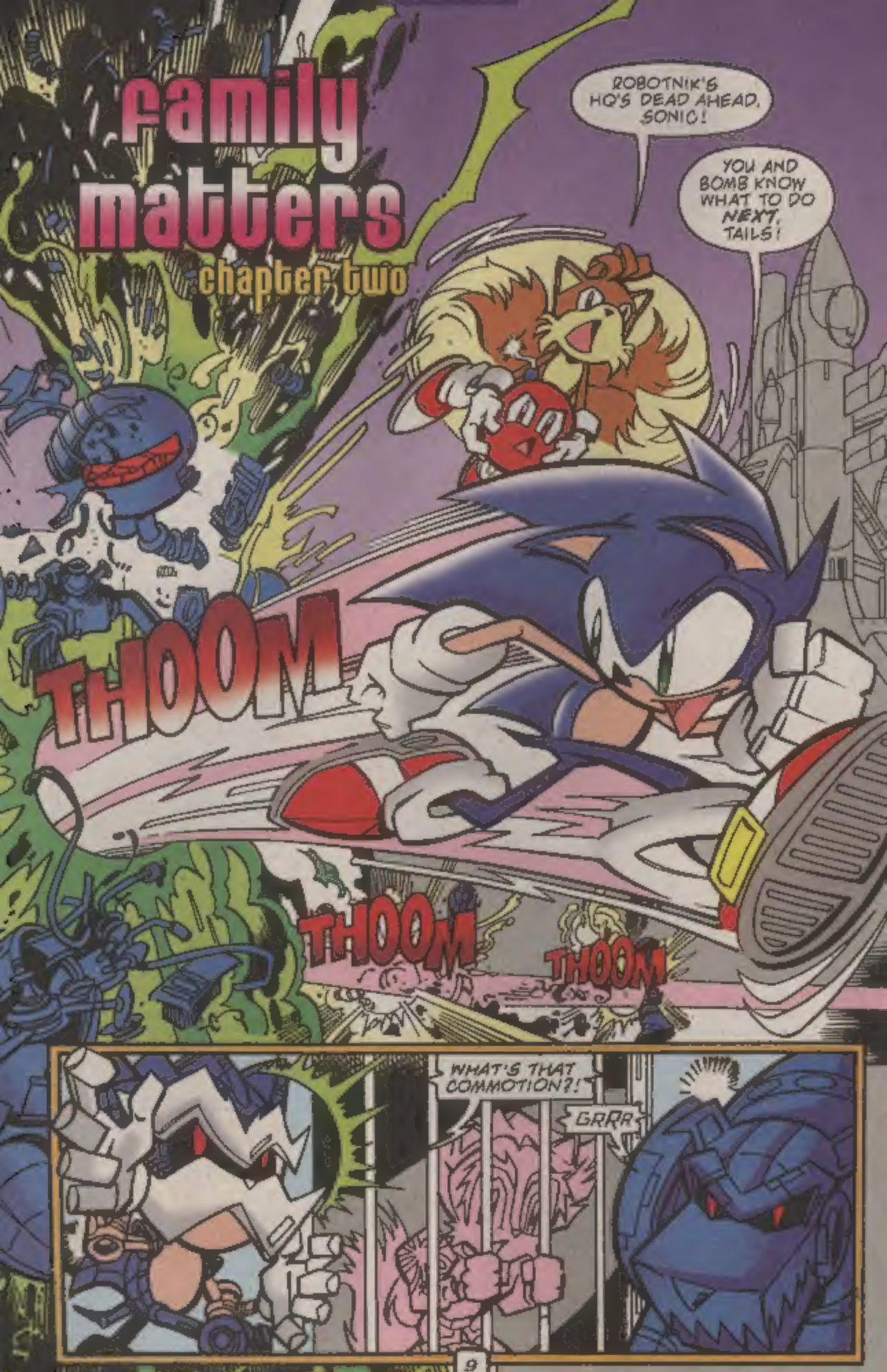
YOU CAN *COUNT* ON ME, SAL...

GEOFFREY, MY *BROTHER* SHOULD BE YOUR *TOP* PRIORITY.

RIGHT.

UHH... SAL?


LET'S DO THIS!


family matters
chapter two
ROBOTNIK'S HQ'S DEAD AHEAD, SONIC!
YOU AND BOMB KNOW WHAT TO DO NEXT, TAILS!
THOOM
THOOM
THOOM
WHAT'S THAT COMMOTION?!
GRRR

BOMB S AWAY!

BOOM

WE RE IN!

DOWN, YOUR H GHNESS RO'BUTT N K S NOT HOME YET

BUT - S WELCOME WAGON S HERE TO GREET US JUST THE SAME

WHY DON TCHA LEAVE EM TO US?

THERE'S BEEN A SERIOUS BREACH IN SECURITY!
SHADOW-BOTS -- TOSS HIM INTO THE ROBOTIC ZER!
SIR CHARLES PLEASE DON'T DO THIS!
SON C--WHY WON'T YOU LET ME PARTAKE IN THE BATTLE?
BECAUSE WE UH, SHOULD ER FIND ELIAS INSTEAD
GEOFFREY AND THE OTHERS CAN HANDLE THE BOTS
YOU'RE TOO LATE DOLTS!
UNCLE CHUCK!
FAR FAR TOO LATE!
ELIAS
OH NO

KNOTHOLE

PRINCESS SALLY I AM REQUESTING A LEAVING OF ZEE ABSENCE TO RE-CUPERATE

WHERE ARE YOU GOING ANTOINE?

ZEE KINGDOM OF MERCIA ZAT IS WHERE BUNNIE AND I WILL CONFRONT MY FATHER, WHO STILL LIVES

BUT HAS BECOME ROBOTNEEKS ROBOT CZED SERVANT

IF THAT'S TRUE I HAVE TO GO WITH THEM-- I WAS BORN IN MERCIA AND MY COUSIN ROB O' THE HEDGE STILL LIVES THERE.

I'M NOT CERTAIN ABOUT ANY OF THIS

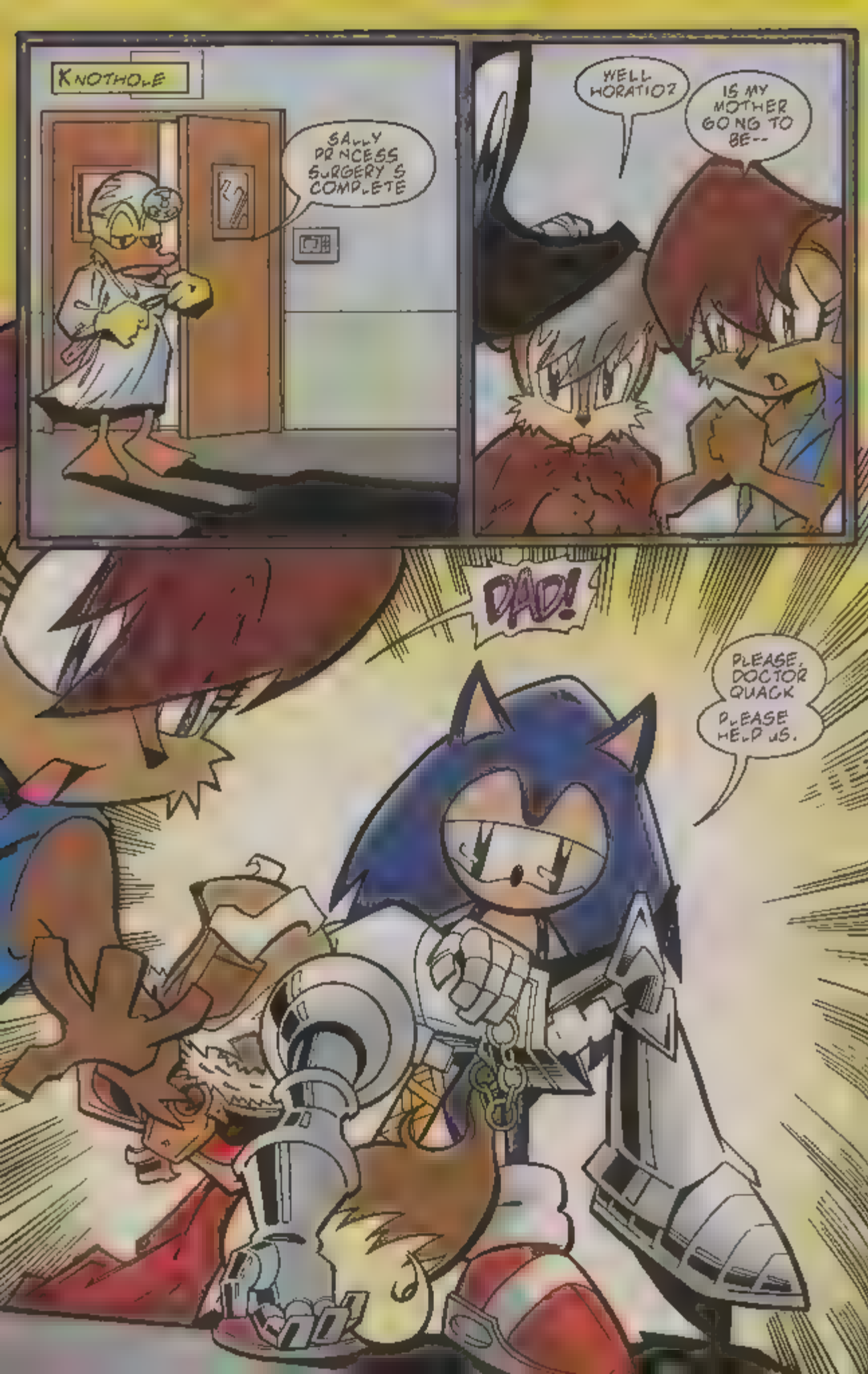
BUT I UNDERSTAND WHAT IT MEANS TO ALL OF YOU GOOD BYE

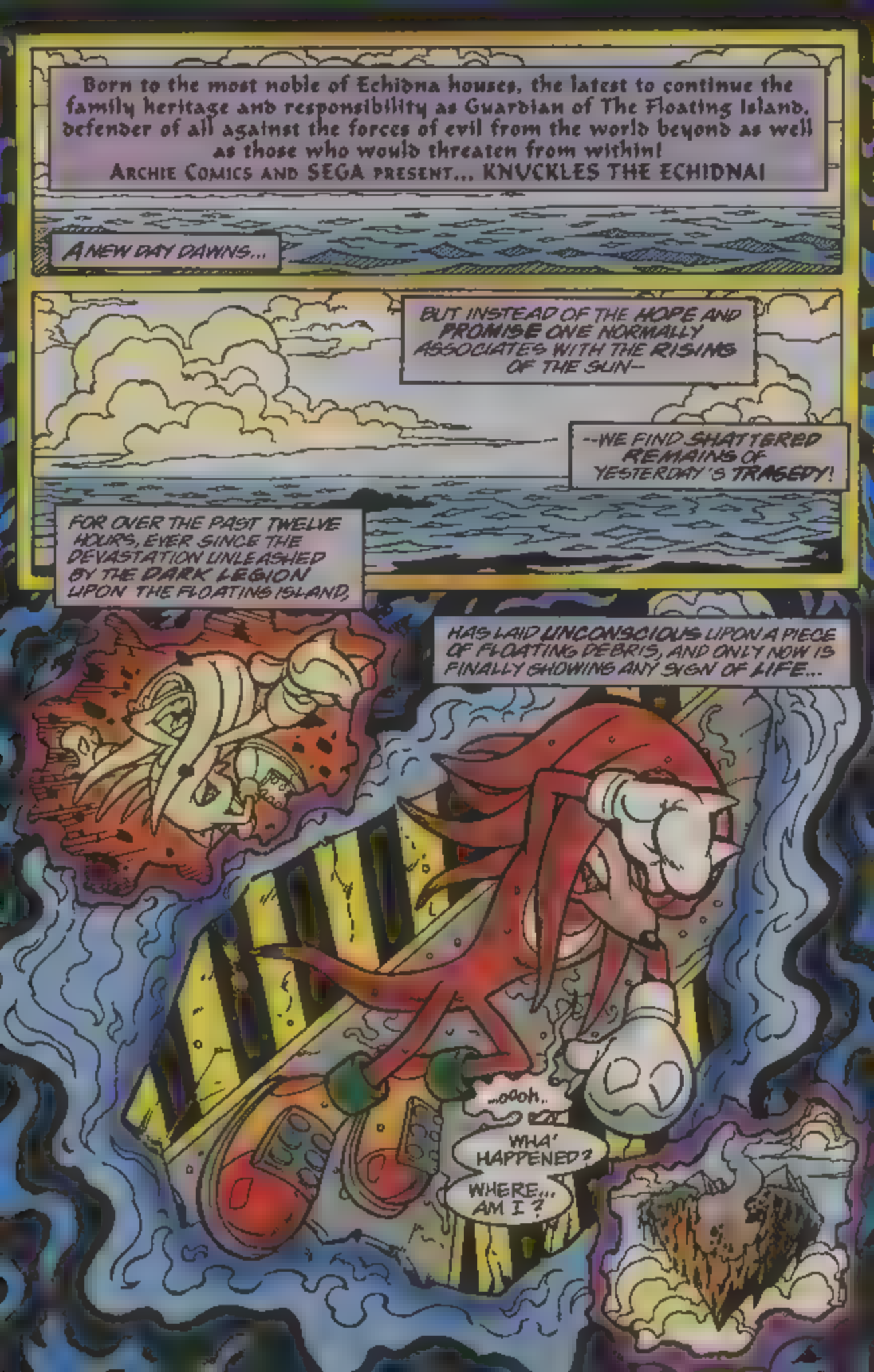
AND GOOD LUCK

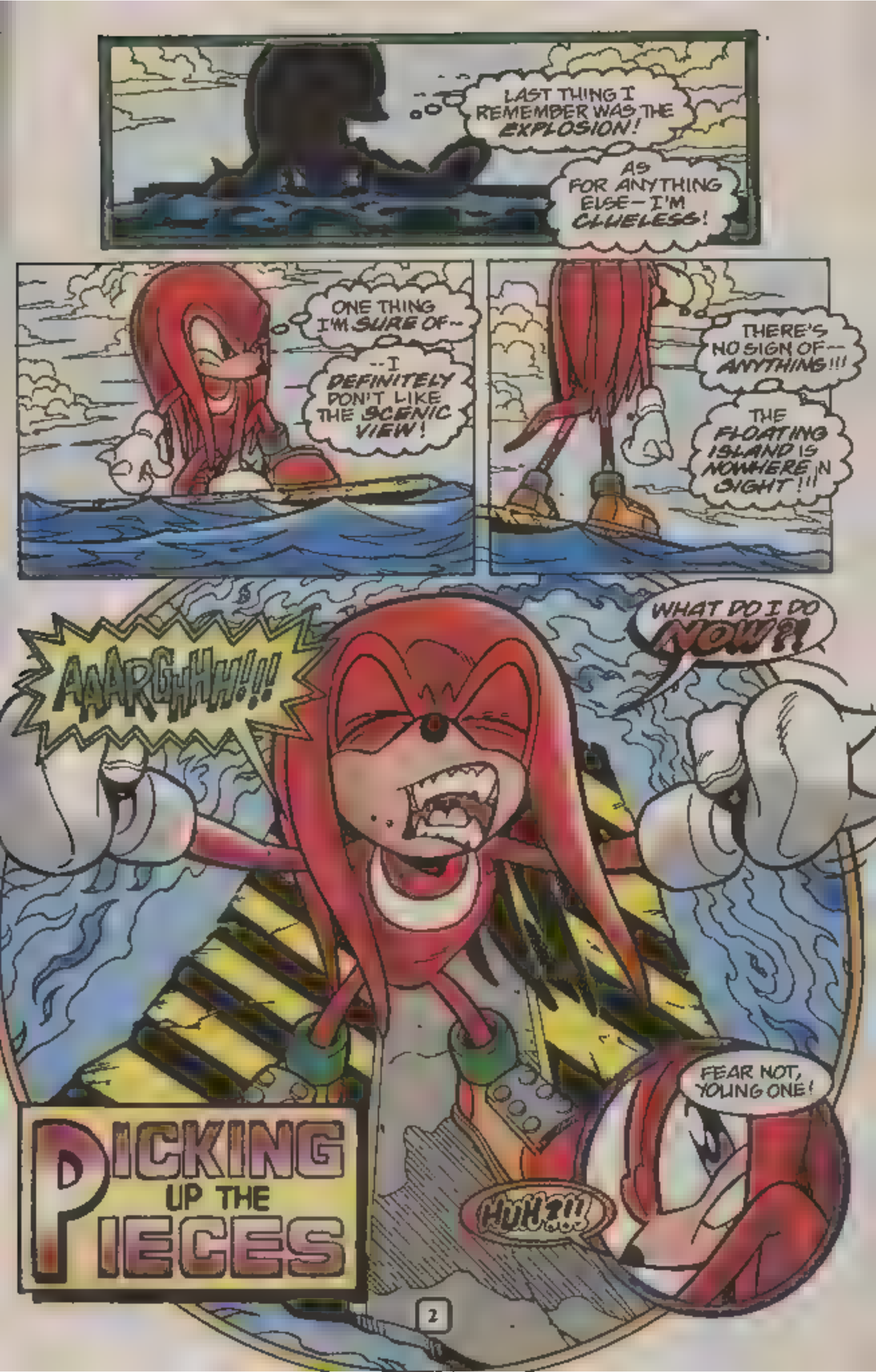
ROBOTROPOLIS.
ZIP
ZIP
ZIP
DON'T DO IT UNCLE CHUCK.
I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE CRETIN
BUT YOU'LL PAY FOR YOUR MEDDLING
ROWF!
MUTTSKI?
STAND DOWN, SIR CHARLES
THAT'S A ROYAL COMMAND
...YOU'D BEST LISTEN TO IT!
THWANG
THUK

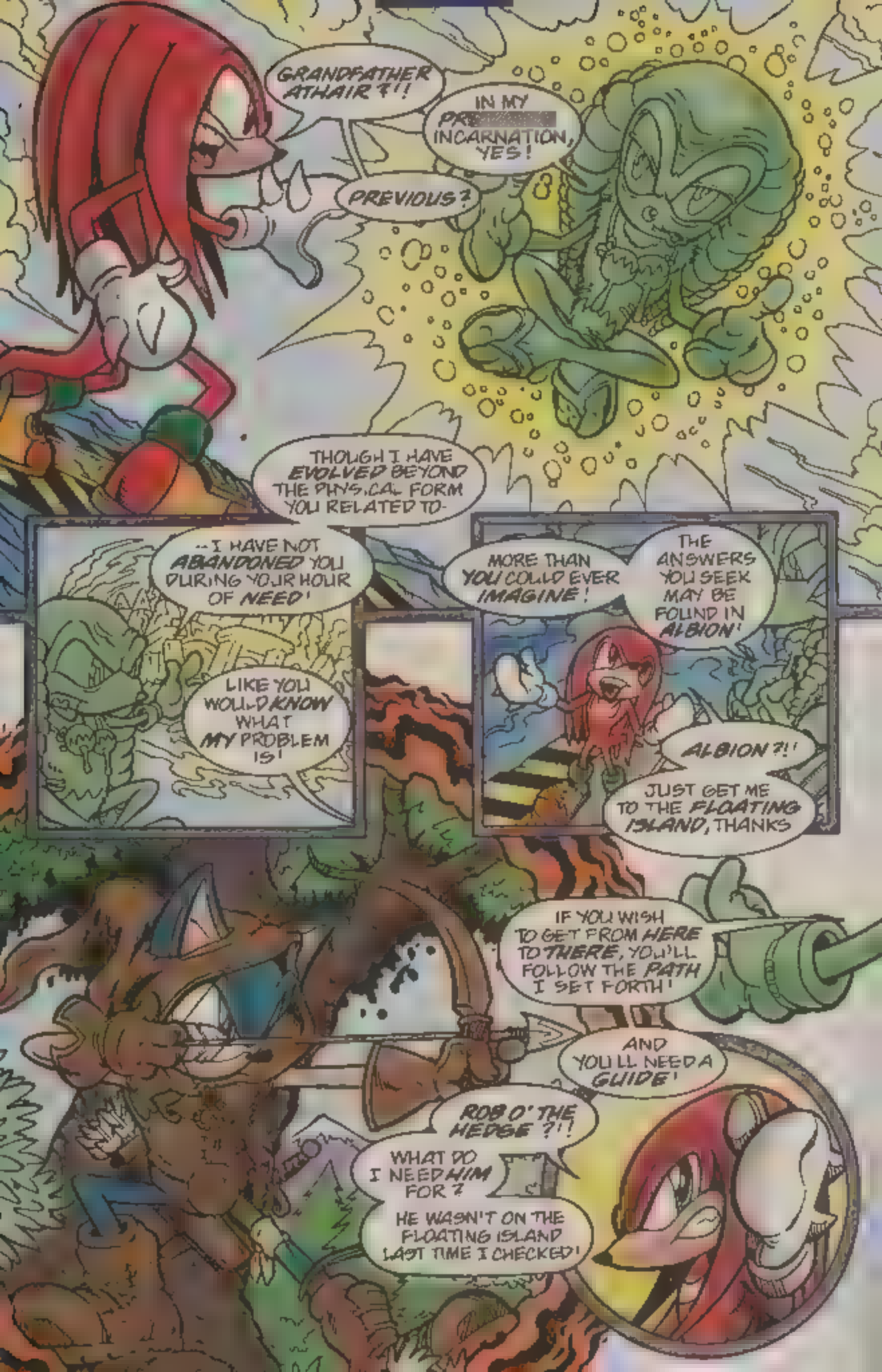
SHLIKT
DON'T STAND THERE GAWKING--
--GET THE PRINCE.
I DON'T BELIEVE IT--MY UNCLE AND DOG HAVE TURNED AS DANGEROUS AS ROBOTNIK HIMSELF!
GOING SOMEWHERE CHARLES?
MY NAME IS NOT--
HUH? SIRE? WHERE AM I? WHAT HAPPENED?
ROWF?

SPINNNN
UNCLE CHUCK! MUTTSKI! NOO!
THEY WERE BACK! THEY WERE--
KRAK
RAAAGH!
THOOM THOOM THOOM
SONIC STOP! THE SHADOW-BOTS DESTROYED --WE MUST GET THE KING MEDICAL ATTENTION!
THEY WERE BACK THEY WERE BACK
THEY WERE BACK

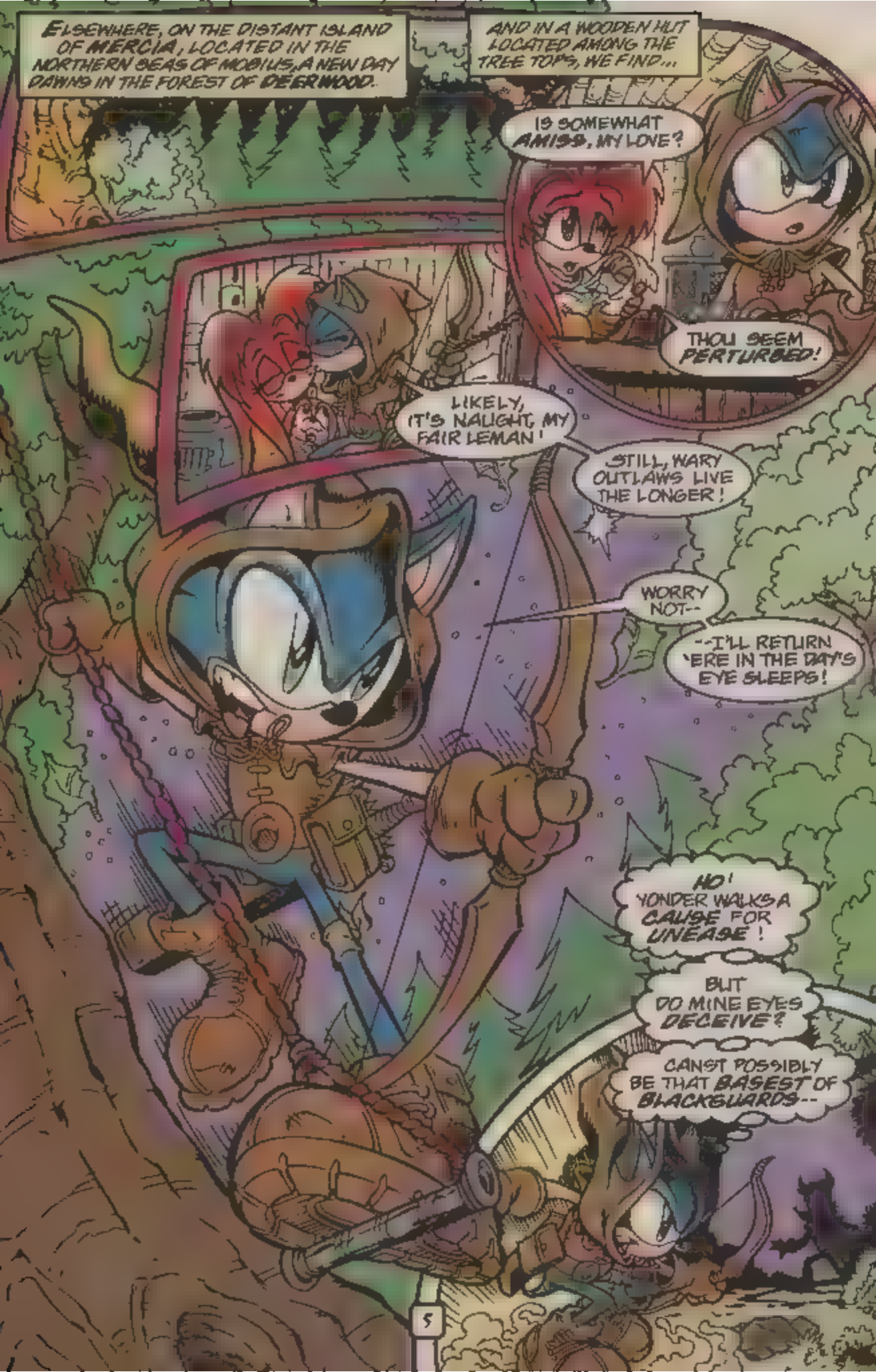

KNOTHOLE
SALLY PRINCESS SURGERY S COMPLETE
WELL HORATIO?
IS MY MOTHER GOING TO BE--
DAD!
PLEASE, DOCTOR QUACK
PLEASE HELP US.

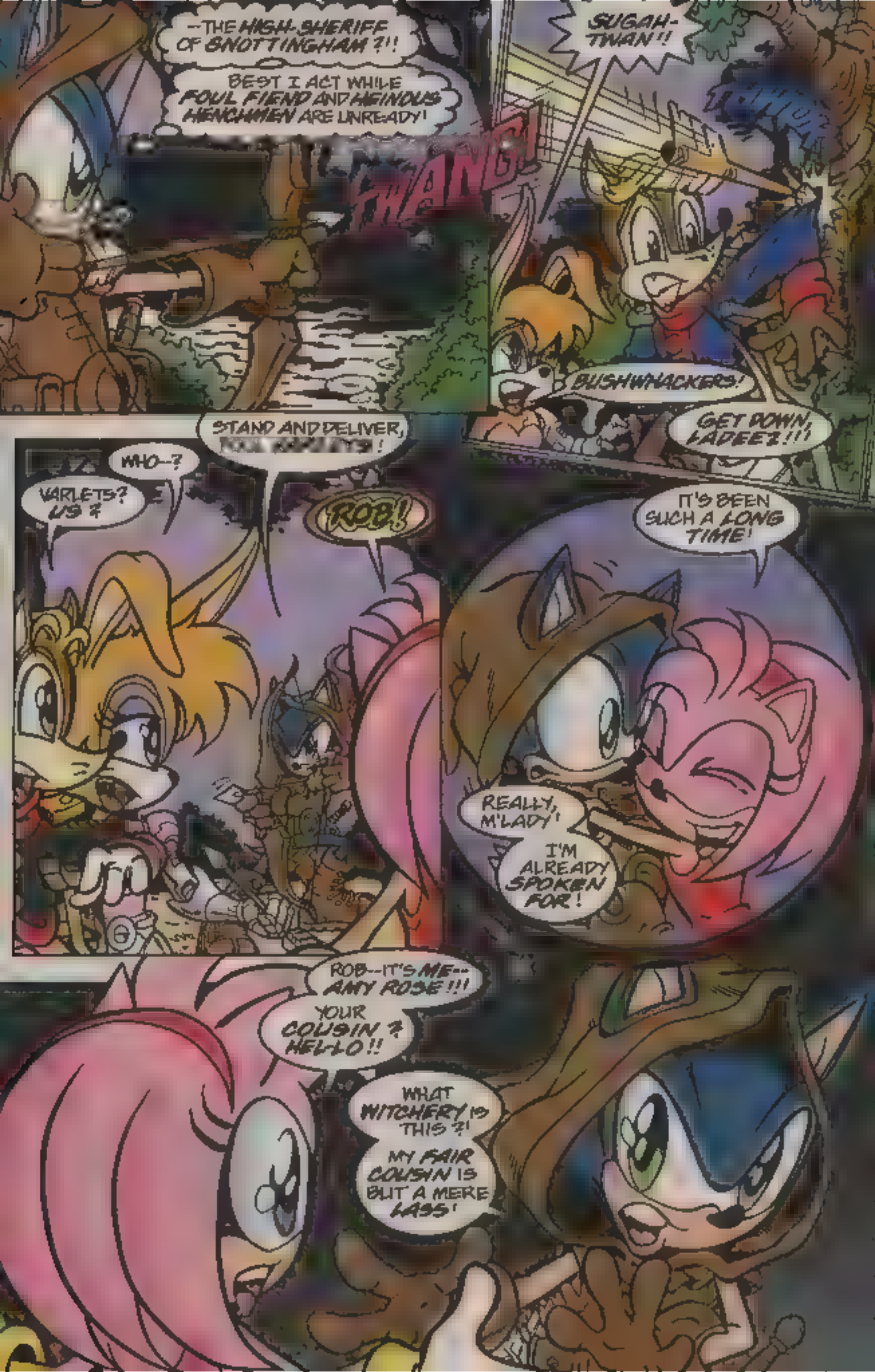

Born to the most noble of Echidna houses, the latest to continue the family heritage and responsibility as Guardian of The Floating Island, defender of all against the forces of evil from the world beyond as well as those who would threaten from within!
ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT... KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA!
A NEW DAY DAWNS...
BUT INSTEAD OF THE HOPE AND PROMISE ONE NORMALLY ASSOCIATES WITH THE RISING OF THE SUN--
--WE FIND SHATTERED REMAINS OF YESTERDAY'S TRAGEDY!
FOR OVER THE PAST TWELVE HOURS, EVER SINCE THE DEVASTATION UNLEASHED BY THE DARK LEGION UPON THE FLOATING ISLAND,
HAS LAID UNCONSCIOUS UPON A PIECE OF FLOATING DEBRIS, AND ONLY NOW IS FINALLY SHOWING ANY SIGN OF LIFE...
...oooh..
WHA' HAPPENED?
WHERE... AM I?

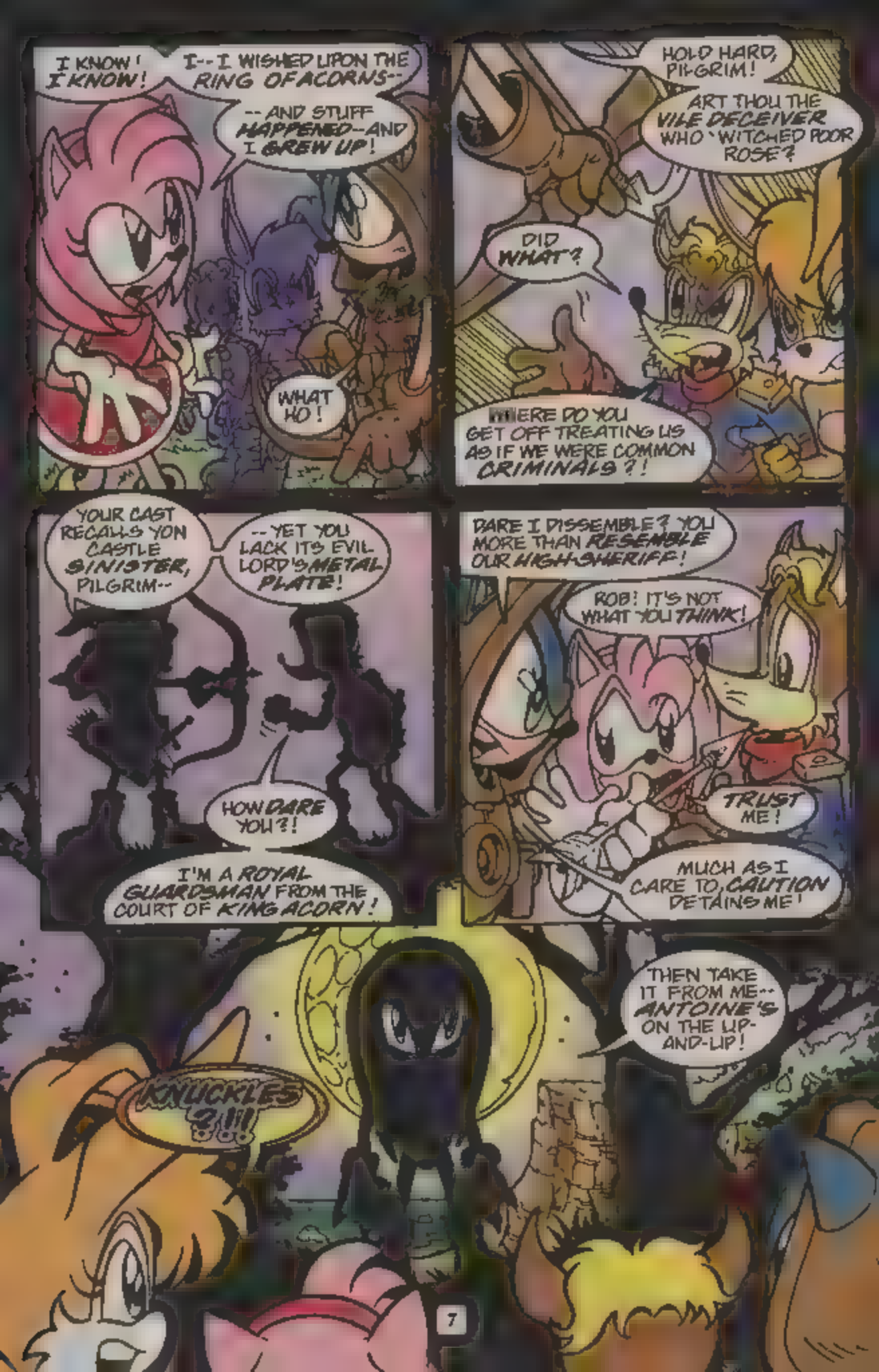

LAST THING I REMEMBER WAS THE EXPLOSION!
AS FOR ANYTHING ELSE—I'M CLUELESS!
ONE THING I'M SURE OF--
--I DEFINITELY DON'T LIKE THE SCENIC VIEW!
THERE'S NO SIGN OF-- ANYTHING!!!
THE FLOATING ISLAND IS NOWHERE IN SIGHT!!!
WHAT DO I DO NOW?!
AAARGHHH!!!
FEAR NOT, YOUNG ONE!
HUH?!!
PICKING UP THE PIECES


GRANDFATHER ATHAIR ?!!
IN MY PR[redacted] INCARNATION, YES!
PREVIOUS ?
THOUGH I HAVE EVOLVED BEYOND THE PHYSICAL FORM YOU RELATED TO-
--I HAVE NOT ABANDONED YOU DURING YOUR HOUR OF NEED!
LIKE YOU WOULD KNOW WHAT MY PROBLEM IS!
MORE THAN YOU COULD EVER IMAGINE!
THE ANSWERS YOU SEEK MAY BE FOUND IN ALBION!
ALBION ?!!
JUST GET ME TO THE FLOATING ISLAND, THANKS
IF YOU WISH TO GET FROM HERE TO THERE, YOU'LL FOLLOW THE PATH I SET FORTH!
AND YOU'LL NEED A GUIDE!
ROB O' THE HEDGE ?!!
WHAT DO I NEED HIM FOR ?
HE WASN'T ON THE FLOATING ISLAND LAST TIME I CHECKED!

IF I TOLD YOU, YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE ME!
TRY ME!
WAIT!!
HOW DO I EVEN GET THERE FROM HERE?!!
YOU ALREADY HAVE THE MEANS, KNUCKLES!
FAREWELL!
I DO?!
WAIT A MINUTE! HE'S RIGHT! I DO!!!!
I'D FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT THE GUIDING STAR GEM SINCE I LAST USED IT!
THIS PUPPY IS JUST THE TICKET TO GET ME WHERE I NEED TO GO!
STILL HAVEN'T GOTTEN USED TO THE WILD EFFECTS, THOUGH.
THEN AGAIN--
--I STILL HAVEN'T GOTTEN USED TO A LOT OF THINGS...


ELSEWHERE, ON THE DISTANT ISLAND OF MERCIA, LOCATED IN THE NORTHERN SEAS OF MOBIUS, A NEW DAY DAWNS IN THE FOREST OF DEERWOOD.
AND IN A WOODEN HUT LOCATED AMONG THE TREE TOPS, WE FIND...
IS SOMEWHAT AMISS, MY LOVE?
THOU SEEM PERTURBED!
LIKELY, IT'S NAUGHT, MY FAIR LEMAN!
STILL, WARY OUTLAWS LIVE THE LONGER!
WORRY NOT--
--I'LL RETURN 'ERE IN THE DAY'S EYE SLEEPS!
HO! YONDER WALKS A CAUSE FOR UNEASE!
BUT DO MINE EYES DECEIVE?
CANST POSSIBLY BE THAT BASEST OF BLACKGUARDS--


--THE HIGH-SHERIFF OF SNOTTINGHAM ?!!
BEST I ACT WHILE FOUL FIEND AND HEINOUS HENCHMEN ARE UNREADY!
THANG!
SUGAH-TWAN!!
BUSHWHACKERS!
GET DOWN, LADEEZ!!!
STAND AND DELIVER, [redacted]!
WHO--?
VARLETS? US ?
ROB!
IT'S BEEN SUCH A LONG TIME!
REALLY, M'LADY!
I'M ALREADY SPOKEN FOR!
ROB--IT'S ME-- AMY ROSE!!!
YOUR COUSIN ? HELLO!!
WHAT WITCHERY IS THIS ?!
MY FAIR COUSIN IS BUT A MERE LASS!


I KNOW! I KNOW!
I-- I WISHED UPON THE RING OF ACORNS--
-- AND STUFF HAPPENED-- AND I GREW UP!
WHAT HO!
HOLD HARD, PILGRIM!
ART THOU THE VILE DECEIVER WHO WITCHED POOR ROSE?
DID WHAT?
WHERE DO YOU GET OFF TREATING US AS IF WE WERE COMMON CRIMINALS?!
YOUR CAST RECALLS YON CASTLE SINISTER, PILGRIM--
-- YET YOU LACK ITS EVIL LORD'S METAL PLATE!
HOW DARE YOU?!
I'M A ROYAL GUARDSMAN FROM THE COURT OF KING ACORN!
DARE I DISSEMBLE? YOU MORE THAN RESEMBLE OUR HIGH-SHERIFF!
ROB! IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK!
TRUST ME!
MUCH AS I CARE TO, CAUTION DETAINS ME!
THEN TAKE IT FROM ME-- ANTOINE'S ON THE UP-AND-UP!
KNUCKLES?!!!

FRIEND KNUCKLES! KNOWEST THOU THIS *DASTARDLY INTRUDER*?

YEAH--AND HE'S DEFINITELY ONE OF THE *GOOD* GUYS!

SHOAH GLAD YOAH HEAH TO SET THIS *SONIC-WANNABE* STRAIGHT!

I DON'T KNOW *WHY* THEY'RE HERE, ROB, BUT THEY *ARE* WHO THEY SAY THEY ARE, INCLUDING YOUR *COUSIN, AMY ROSE!*

AS FOR THE *BOWMAN*, ANTOINE, HE'S AS MUCH A *STRAIGHT ARROW* AS YOU!

WHAT BRINGS THEE TO DARKEN DEERWOOD FOREST?

I CAME HERE IN SEARCH OF MY *FATHER!*

I CAN *RELATE!*

SO WHAT WOULD YOUR FATHER AND THE FLOATING ISLAND HAVE IN COMMON--

--UNLESS [redacted] ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND IN *ALBION*?

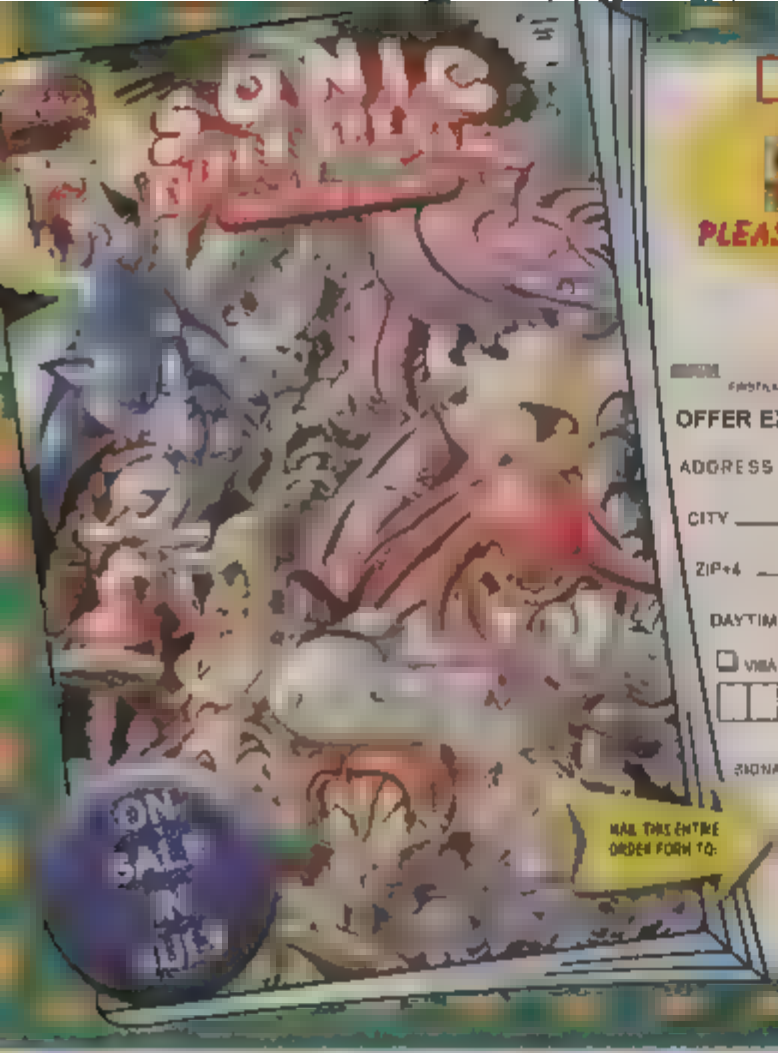
VERILY?

WES A VISIT IN THE OFFING?

I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT I CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S ONLY A COINCIDENCE WE FIVE HAVE *COME TOGETHER* HERE!

SO, WHO'S WITH ME--

NEXT:
--ON THE ROAD TO ALBION!



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SONIC-GRAMS

OFF PANEL

by Gallagher, Manak & Amash

THIS JUST IN!

J.F. GABRIE EDITION

Welcome, fans, to another exciting issue of Sonic The Hedgehog. This issue brings about many returns. The return of Sonic and the Freedom Fighters to the Kingdom of Knothole. The return of Knuckles The Echidna to this book, now as a regular back-up feature! The return of FRY as penciler. Though FRY has been busy doing other projects, he just had to admit that Sonic has gotten in his blood. He loves to draw the Blue Blur's adventures and I for one am sure glad he does. Please welcome FRY back to our Sonic family as we turn the corner toward issue #100. Lots and lots of stuff will be happening so keep a close eye on future events. On the Sega Dreamcast front, two new Sonic games have been announced. The first one (shipping in Fall 2000) is Sonic Shuffle. It is a multi-player, online-ready party game. You can play with up to 4 people at home or with other players on the Internet via SegaNet. The other is due out sometime in 2001, just in time for Sonic's 10th Anniversary. It is... Sonic Adventure 2! 'Nuff said! Enjoy the strip above since Archimedes has disappeared along with all the other inhabitants of The Floating Island.

Catch you on the flip side!

JF

Note: Due to the overwhelming amount of e-mail and snail mail, it is impossible for us to reply personally to each and every message. However, your opinions are important to us and each message will be read. Also, due to space limitations, some correspondence may be edited.

Thanks for understanding!

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MORE TO COME NEXT MONTH!

DEC. cover date, ships 9/15. 32-page, full color comic, $1.99 US: $2.19 CANADA. "Thicker Than Water". Our heroes deal with the disastrous results of last issue's major turmoil, and in the process face their own inner turmoil as well. Princess Sally is among the hardest hit, keeping vigil for her ailing father, King Max-while Sonic blames himself for damage his headquarters has suffered, and you can bet he's not very happy! Marshaling the forces of Shadow Bots and Robians, he plots his revenge, even as Sonic ponders the Sword of Acorns' alleged ability to restore the Robians' own free will! SCRIPT: Karl Bollers. ART: James Fry (pencils) and Andrew Pepoy (inks).

The following is mail from SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #11, "Girls Rule!" From the overwhelming amount of letters we've received, it sure looks like featuring some of our more populnr furry female cast members was a total hit with you fans out there:

Dear Sonic-Grams,

Regarding the Bunnie Rabbot story, "Upgrade", I'm surprised that transferring Bunnie's consciousness into a clone (preferably a drone-type lacking any personality) wasn't considered since this would effectively be artificial reincarnation and would probably even work for free-willed Robians (although the clone would have to be genetically-engineered to look identical to the original form). It would be less risky than derobotization. I think it would be nice to have a story where Aerial and Athena meet Princess Sally so we can find out what they all think of each other.

Mike Lunbaugh
Orlando, FL

Thanks for the quick science lesson, Mike, but we tend to think that all of the steps involved in your specific procedure (cloning, genetic engineering, and memory transfer) would be way more complicated (and risky) than simply finding a way to reverse robotization.

Dear Sonic,

Wow! SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #11 was very moving! It hurt to see Lupe robotocized. I liked her a lot. Maybe Bunnie will be back to normal someday. Will Geoffrey and Hershey become an item? And, of course, Julie-Su is too cool! Many prayers go out to Lupe's friends! Keep this way cool comic going!

Lily Yvonne Bonillas
San Ysidro, CA

We always strive to please, Lily! Keep the faith and maybe Lupe will return someday to lead her pack. As for Geoffrey and Hershey, keep your eyes on them— sparks are sure to fly!

Dear Sonic Crew,

I have been reading your comic ever since SONIC THE HEDGEHOG issue #20 and have loved every one of them (except #33). I just finished reading SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #11, "Girls Rule", and I'm sorry to say I thought it was awful! The first story, "Ascension", was pretty good, but what's with Elias? I feel like he's taking Sonic's place. My one question about "Solo" is: Why did you robotocize Valdez?! He wasn't even in the story until that point! Lupe's story was the worst! How could you robotocize her? She never even got to see her family! Now the Wolfpack probably thinks Charles robotocized her of his own free will. I hope that gravestone at the end of the story doesn't mean she died. Upgrade was very close to being the worst. I didn't want Bunnie to be derobotocized any time soon (sorry, Bunnie), but it was nice to know that she still had a chance! Now she's a cyborg, like Julie-Su, and that's just not right! Besides, I think she looked better before (she was certainly easier to draw!). I must say that Julie-Su's story was pretty good and, as always, Spaz's art was great!

Elizabeth "Dragonwings" Ingianni (Age 14)
New Bern, NC

We know that Sonic is a very important part of Princess Sally's life, Elizabeth, but Elias is her older brother so his presence will be felt as well. We didn't robotocize Valdez and Lupe— Robotnik did. The gravestone at the end of Lupe's story was symbolic. The Lupe we knew and loved is gone.

Dear Sonic,

I just got done reading SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #11 and it was the greatest SUPER SPECIAL I ever read (next to "Battle Royal" in SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #1), but I have a few questions: 1) Will Elias succeed his father as king? 2) Did the bomb that blew up at the end of "Solo" finish off Robo-Robotnik? 3) Will Uncle Chuck ever be derobotocized and return to his old self? Well, that's all! See ya!

Keegan Gabel (Age 11)
Pigeon Forge, TN

1) King Max wants nothing more than for his son to someday be king, but Elias isn't so thrilled about the decision, Keegan.
2) It'll take more than that. Remember, old Robo isn't a creature of flesh and bone.
3) Only time, (and upcoming stories) will tell...

Dear Sonic Editors,

I have some way uncool complaints about SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #11: 1)Valdez robotocized? 2)Uncle Chuck a villain? 3) Lupe robotocized! Other than that, way past cool comic! And the new art is awesome! Keep up the good work!

Robert Whitfield (Age 9)
Fayetteville, AR

Will do, Robert!

Dear Sonic-Grams,

I'm reading SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #11. It's cool! I like the cover where Sonic says, "Hey! Whose comic is this anyway?"

Lee James Hafmeno (Age 8)
Savage, MT

That Sonic sure is a real scamp, huh, Lee?

Dear Sonic-Grams,

Wow! I just read SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #11. It was great! Great artwork, great storylines...great everything! I especially liked the Bunnie Rabbot and the Julie-Su stories. I finally found out what was up between Kragok, Kommissar, and Julie-Su. I used to think that maybe Kommissar was Julie-Su's mom. Now I know that she is actually her half-sister. I have a few questions:
1)Are Kragok and Kommissar still around?
2) Is Manny Galan going to come back?

Amanda Adams
Chichester, NH

1) Kragok and Kommissar are still out there. 2) No plans for it since Manny's working on other projects, but what'd you think of Spaz's art on "Shadows?"

KEEP ON JUICIN'!

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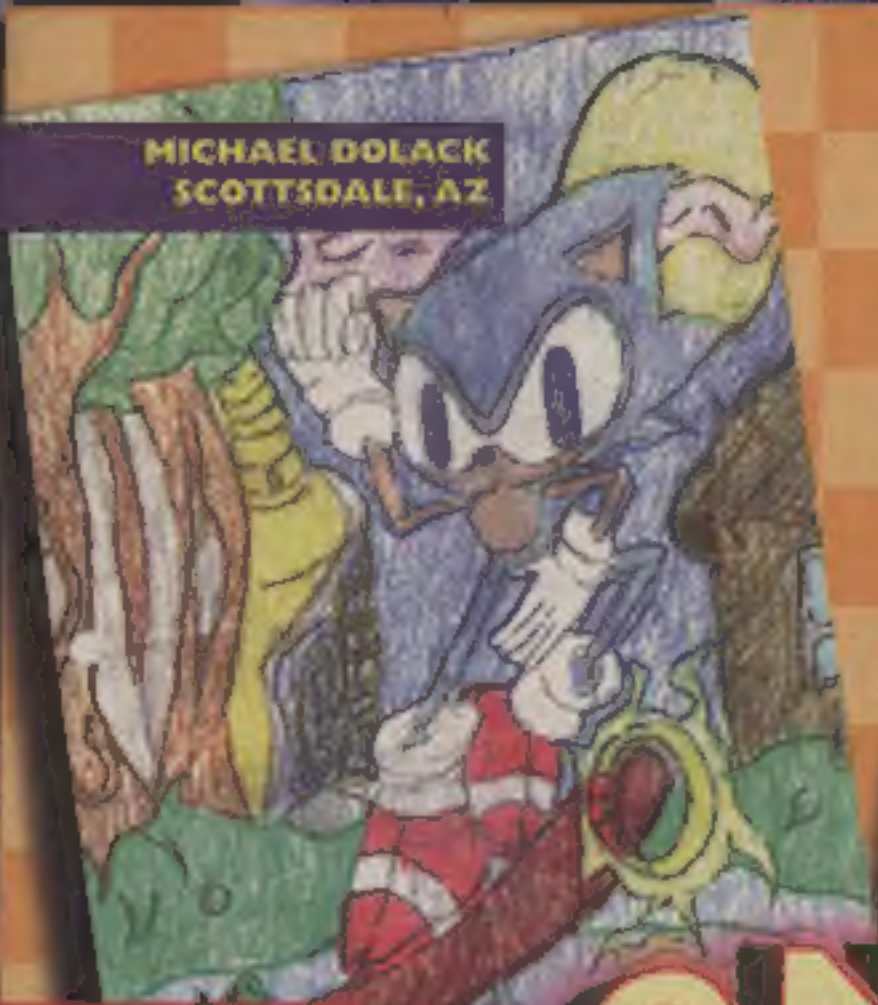

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